



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
Southern District of Indiana*

*10 West Market Street  
Suite 2100  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-3048*

*(317)226-6333  
TDD (317)226-5438*

*FAX NUMBERS:  
Criminal (317)226-6125  
Administration (317)226-5176  
Civil (317)226-5027  
FLU (317) 226-6133  
OCDETF (317)226-5953*

**June 3, 2003**

**CONTACT PERSON:**

**SUSAN W. BROOKS**

United States Attorney

(317) 226-6333

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**INDIANAPOLIS MAN CHARGED  
AS ARMED CAREER CRIMINAL**

**PRESS RELEASE**

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that JULIUS BURTS, 25, Indianapolis, Indiana, was indicted by a federal grand jury sitting in Indianapolis for the unlawful possession of a firearm and ammunition by a convicted felon, following an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives and the Indianapolis Police Department, and as part of the PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS initiative.

The indictment alleges that BURTS has three prior felony convictions for intimidation, criminal recklessness, and robbery, and that he possessed a .45 caliber semi-automatic handgun on February 1, 2003, while riding as a passenger in a vehicle that was stopped.

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by Indianapolis police near the intersection of Tremont and St. Clair.

According to Assistant United States Attorney James P. Hanlon, who is prosecuting the case for the government, BURTS, if convicted, could be subject to sentencing as an Armed Career Criminal. If the court determines BURTS has three qualifying violent or drug trafficking felony convictions, he would be subject to a minimum, mandatory 15 year term of imprisonment and a maximum of life imprisonment. An initial hearing will be scheduled before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Indianapolis.

**The indictment is an allegation only, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.**

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